



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Hans **HORN** et al.

Appln. No.: 10/542,731

Confirmation No.: **8426**

Filed: 07/20/2005

Art Group: **3722**

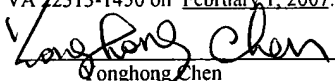
For: **RING BINDER MECHANISM**

Attorney Docket No.: **3827.135**

Customer Number: **30448**

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited either by facsimile to 571-273-8300 or with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 1, 2007.

  
Gonghong Chen

Reg. No. 56,150

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98**

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of any non-US documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A, copy of the International Search Report (ISR) issued in the corresponding PCT application are provided herewith. A copy of an English translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability is also enclosed herewith.

1. WO 01/81099 A1 (English abstract is provided on the cover page)
2. US 3,993,374
3. US 4,566,817

4. US 4,130,368
5. EP 0 808 725 A1 (in English)

Documents 1-5 are cited in the ISR. A concise explanation of relevancy for each non-English document is provided below:

**Document 1**

It is indicated in the ISR that page 10, line 18 to page 19, line 29 and Figs. 1b, 5a, and 7a of Document 1 are "X" category relevant to claims 1-7 and 10 of the corresponding PCT application.

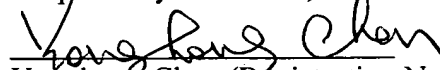
Since the present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first office Action, no certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

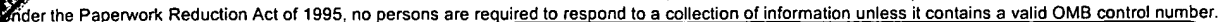
Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

**Date: February 1, 2007**

Respectfully submitted,



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*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	1
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Application Number	10/542,731
Filing Date	07/20/2005
First Named Inventor	Hans Horn
Art Unit	3722
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	3827.135

[illegible]

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	Footnote <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		WO 01/81099 A1	11-01-2001	ESSELTE LEITZ GMBH & CO KG		
		EP 0 808 725 A1	11-16-1997	LECO STATIONERY MANUFACTURING CO. LTD.		

Date  
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*